

REMARKS

The Office Action of 03/01/2007 has been carefully considered. In response thereto, the claims have been amended as set forth above. Reconsideration and allowance in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

A REPLACEMENT SHEET is submitted herewith identifying Figure 1 as prior art, as requested.

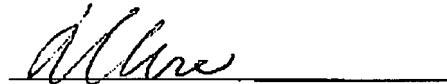
Claims 1-3, 10 and 11 were rejected as being anticipated by Van Den Heuvel. Claims 1 and 3-11 were rejected as being anticipated by Baliga. Claims 1, 10 and 11 were rejected as being anticipated by Applicant Admitted Prior Art (AAPA). The claims have been amended to more clearly distinguish over the cited references. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

In particular, claims 1 and 11 have been amended to recite a two-stepped shield. That is, considering prior art Figure 1 of the specification to show a "stepped" shield having first and second horizontal portions joined by a vertical portion, the invention of claims 1 and 11 now recites a two-stepped shield. (Note structure 50B of Figure 2 of the specification.) The prior art is not believed to teach or suggest any such feature.

Claim 5 has been amended to make clear that the shield is separate from the source electrode. In Figure 9 of Baliga (the only reference applied in detail to claim 5 in the Office Action), the shield and the source electrode are formed as one.

Withdrawal of the rejections and allowance of claims 1-11 is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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